	Case 2:24-cv-09422-DMG-BFM Document #:		Page 1 of 15	Page ID
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Todd M. Friedman (SBN 216752) Adrian R. Bacon (SBN 280332) Matthew R. Snyder (SBN 350907) LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C. 21031 Ventura Blvd., Suite 340 Woodland Hills, CA 91364 Phone: 323-306-4234 Fax: 866-633-0228 tfriedman@toddflaw.com abacon@toddflaw.com msnyder@toddflaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
10 11	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
12	DIANA STINNETT, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	Case No.: CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF PURSUANT TO THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C. § 227, ET SEQ. JURY TRIAL DEMANDED		
13 14 15	Plaintiffs, v.			
16 17	OneEnergy Partners Management Holdings, LLC d/b/a/ COMMUNITY			
18	MINERALS II, LLC; and DOES 1-10 Inclusive,	ACTION SEEF OR NATIONW	KING STATE	WIDE
19	Defendant.	ORTHITION	LL KULKI	
20 21	Introduction			
22	1. DIANA STINNETT ("Plaintiff") brings this Class Action Complaint			
23	for damages, injunctive relief, and any other available legal or equitable remedies,			
24	resulting from the illegal actions of OneEnergy Partners Management Holdings,			
25	LLC d/b/a/ COMMUNITY MINERALS II, LLC ("Defendant"), in negligently			
26	contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone, in violation of the Telephone			
27	Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., ("TCPA") and related			
28	regulations. Plaintiff alleges as follows upon personal knowledge as to herself and			

her own acts and experiences, and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by her attorneys.

- 2. The TCPA was designed to prevent calls and messages like the ones described within this complaint, and to protect the privacy of citizens like Plaintiff. "Voluminous consumer complaints about abuses of telephone technology for example, computerized calls dispatched to private homes prompted Congress to pass the TCPA." Mims v. Arrow Fin. Servs., LLC, 132 S. Ct. 740, 744 (2012).
- 3. In enacting the TCPA, Congress intended to give consumers a choice as to how creditors and telemarketers may call them and made specific findings that "[t]echnologies that might allow consumers to avoid receiving such calls and messages are not universally available, are costly, are unlikely to be enforced, or place an inordinate burden on the consumer. TCPA, Pub.L. No. 102–243, § 11. Toward this end, Congress found that:

[b]anning such automated or prerecorded telephone calls to the home, except when the receiving party consents to receiving the call or when such calls are necessary in an emergency situation affecting the health and safety of the consumer, is the only effective means of protecting telephone consumers from this nuisance and privacy invasion.

- 4. Id. at § 12; see also Martin v. Leading Edge Recovery Solutions, LLC, 2012 WL 3292838, at* 4 (N.D.Ill. Aug. 10, 2012) (citing Congressional findings on TCPA's purpose).
- 5. Congress also specifically found that "the evidence presented to the Congress indicates that automated or prerecorded calls are a nuisance and an invasion of privacy, regardless of the type of call...." Id. at §§ 12-13. See also, Mims, 132 S. Ct. at 744.
- 6. In a recent decision, the Supreme Court interpreted the term "automatic telephone dialing system" and held that "[t]o qualify as an 'automatic telephone dialing system,' a device must have the capacity either to store a

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telephone number using a random or sequential generator or to produce a telephone number using a random or sequential number generator." Facebook, Inc. v. Duguid, 141 S.Ct. 1163 (2021) (emphasis added).

- 7. In Duguid, the Supreme Court provided an example of such systems, stating: "For instance, an autodialer might use a random number generator to determine the order in which to pick phone numbers from a preproduced list. It would then store those numbers to be dialed at a later time." Id. at 1171-72 fn.
- 8. Further, both Duguid and the legislative history of the TCPA are clear that the original focus on prerecorded voice technology prohibition was the fact that such communications involved agentless calls, not on the question of whether a literal voice was used during those agentless calls. See Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Communications of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, United States Senate One Hundred Second Congress First Session July 24, 1992, Testimony of Robert Bulmash and Steve Hamm at pg 11; 7 FCC Rcd. 8752 (F.C.C. September 17, 1992).
- 9. The Sixth Circuit has also recognized this distinction: "Congress drew an explicit distinction between 'automated telephone calls that deliver an artificial or prerecorded voice message' on the one hand and 'calls place by 'live' persons' on the other." Ashland Hosp. Corp. v. Serv. Employees Int'l Union, Dist. 1199 WV/KY/OH, 708 F.3d 737,743 (6th Cir. 2013).
- 10. Similarly, the FTC has observed that "prerecorded calls are by their very nature one-sided conversations, and if there is no opportunity for consumers to ask questions, offers may not be sufficiently clear for consumers to make informed choices before pressing a button or saying yes to make a purchase." 73 FR 51164-01, 51167 (Aug. 29, 2008).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because this action arises under a federal statute, namely the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47

12. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Central District of California pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred within this district.

PARTIES

- 13. Plaintiff is, and at all times mentioned herein, was a natural individual and resident of the State of California, County of Los Angeles. Plaintiff is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39). Plaintiff was physically in California at the time she received the alleged phone calls from Defendant.
- 14. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant is a corporation of the State of California. Defendant, and all of its agents, are and at all times mentioned herein were "persons," as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39). Plaintiff alleges that at all times relevant herein Defendant conducted business in the State of California and in the County of Los Angeles, and within this judicial district.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 15. Beginning in or around August of 2024, Defendant contacted Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone number ending in -8759, in an attempt to solicit Plaintiff to purchase Defendant's services.
- 16. Plaintiff answered these calls a prerecorded message was played on the other end and Plaintiff was not speaking to a live person.
- 17. At one or more instance during these calls, Defendant utilized an "artificial or prerecorded voice" as prohibited by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 18. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).

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- 19. Furthermore, at one or more instance during these calls, Defendant utilized an "artificial or prerecorded voice" as prohibited by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 20. Defendant's calls were placed to telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 21. Plaintiff answered one such call and requested to be removed from Defendant's list and to stop calling her.
- 22. Despite Plaintiff's request to be added to Defendant's do-not-call list, Defendant continued to place calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone without her consent.
- 23. Further, Plaintiff's cellular telephone number ending in -8759 was added to the National Do-Not-Call Registry since 2019.
- 24. Plaintiff estimates that she has received over ten (10) calls from Defendant, most of which were sent after Defendant was advised to place Plaintiff on the Defendant's Do Not Call List.
- 25. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 26. Defendant's calls were placed to telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 27. Such calls constitute solicitation calls pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(c)(2) as they were attempts to promote or sell Defendant's services.
- 28. Plaintiff received numerous solicitation calls from Defendant within a 12-month period.
- 29. Plaintiff requested that Defendant stop in response to multiple calls by Defendant thus revoking any prior express consent that had existed and terminating

any established business relationship that had existed, as defined under 16 C.F.R. 310.4(b)(1)(iii)(B).

- 30. Plaintiff's requests that Defendant calling her constitute a request that he be placed on defendant's internal do-not-call list.
- 31. Upon information and belief and based on Plaintiff's experiences of being called by Defendant after requesting they stop calling her, and at all relevant times, Defendant does not maintain a written policy, available upon demand, for maintain a do-not-call list, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(1).
- 32. Plaintiff further alleges that Defendant does not train its employees who are engaged in telemarketing in the existence and use of any do-not-call list, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(2).
- 33. On information and belief, Defendant failed to place Plaintiff on the do-not-call list, despite her request to no longer be called by Defendant. Instead, Defendant continued to call to Plaintiff's cellular telephone, in violation of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(3).
- 34. These calls by Defendant, or its agents, violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

- 35. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and on behalf of and all others similarly situated, as a member of the three proposed Classes (hereafter, jointly, "The Classes").
- 36. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, the National Do-Not-Call Class (hereinafter "National DNC Class") defined as follows: All persons within the United States registered on the National Do-Not-Call Registry for at least 30 days, who received more than one call by or on behalf of Defendant that promoted Defendant's products or services within any twelve-month period, within four years prior to the filing of this Complaint through the date of class certification.

- 37. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, the Internal Do-Not-Call Class (hereinafter "Internal DNC Class") defined as follows: All persons within the United States who requested that Defendant stop calling them, and who, after requesting Defendant stop calling them, received more than one call or message by or on behalf of Defendant that promoted Defendant's products or services within any twelve-month period, within four years prior to the filing of this Complaint through the date of class certification.
- 38. Defendant, its employees and agents are excluded from the Classes. Plaintiff does not know the number of members in the Classes, but believes the Class members number in the thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class action to assist in the expeditious litigation of this matter.
- 39. This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of economic injury on behalf of the Classes, and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal injury and claims related thereto. Plaintiff reserves the right to expand the Class definitions to seek recovery on behalf of additional persons as warranted as facts are learned in further investigation and discovery.
- 40. The joinder of the Classes' members is impractical and the disposition of their claims in the Class action will provide substantial benefits both to the parties and to the court. The Classes can be identified through Defendant's records or Defendant's agents' records.
- 41. Plaintiff and members of the National DNC Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following ways: Defendant illegally contacted Plaintiff and National DNC Class members via their telephones for solicitation purposes, thereby invading the privacy of said Plaintiff and the National DNC Class members whose telephone numbers were on the National Do-Not-Call Registry. Plaintiff and the National DNC Class members were damaged thereby.
- 42. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the National DNC Class members. The questions of

law and fact common to the National DNC Class predominate over questions which may affect individual National DNC Class members, including the following:

- a. Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint through the date of class certification, Defendant or their agents placed more than one telemarketing/solicitation calls to National DNC Class members whose telephone numbers were on the National Do-Not-Call Registry;
- b. Whether Defendant maintains proper procedures and policies on the use of do-not-call lists, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200;
- c. Whether Plaintiff and the National DNC Class members were damaged by Defendant's conduct, and the extent of damages for such violations; and
- d. Whether Defendant and their agents should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 43. As a person that received solicitation telephone calls from Defendant within a 12-month period, and whose phone number was registered on the National Do-Not-Call Registry, Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of the National DNC Class. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the National DNC Class in that Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to any member of the National DNC Class.
- 44. Plaintiff and members of the Internal DNC Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following ways: Defendant illegally contacted Plaintiff and Internal DNC Class members via their telephones for solicitation purposes, thereby invading the privacy of said Plaintiff and the Internal DNC Class members who had requested that Defendant stop contacting them. Plaintiff and the Internal DNC Class members were damaged thereby.
- 45. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the Internal DNC Class members. The questions of law

and fact common to the Internal DNC Class predominate over questions which may affect individual Internal DNC Class members, including the following:

- a) Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint through the date of class certification, Defendant or their agents placed more than one telemarketing/solicitation telephone calls to Internal DNC Class members who had previously requested that Defendant stop contacting them;
- b) Whether Defendant maintains proper procedures and policies on the use of do-not-call lists, as required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200;
- c) Whether Plaintiff and the Internal DNC Class members were damaged by Defendant's conduct, and the extent of damages for such violations; and
- d) Whether Defendant and their agents should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 46. As a person that received numerous solicitation telephone calls from Defendant within a 12-month period, and who had previously requested that Defendant stop contacting her, Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of the Internal DNC Class. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Internal DNC Class in that Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to any member of the Internal DNC Class.
- 47. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, the Prerecorded Class, defined as follows: All persons within the United States who received any phone calls sent using a prerecorded, or artificial voice from Defendant, which phone call was not made for emergency purposes or with the recipient's prior express consent within the four years prior to the filing of the Complaint through the date of class certification.
- 48. Plaintiff and members of the Prerecorded Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following ways: Defendant, either directly or through their agents, illegally contacted Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members via their cellular telephones by using marketing and telephone calls, thereby causing Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members to incur certain cellular telephone charges or reduce cellular telephone time for which Plaintiff and

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the Prerecorded Class members previously paid, and invading the privacy of said Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members. Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members were damaged thereby.

- 49. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved affecting the Prerecorded Class members. The questions of law and fact common to the Prerecorded Class predominate over questions which may affect individual Prerecorded Class members, including the following:
 - a) Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint through the date of class certification, Defendant or their agents made any telephone calls (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) to a Prerecorded Class member using an artificial voice to any telephone number assigned to a cellular phone service;
 - b) Whether Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages for such violations; and
 - c) Whether Defendant and their agents should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 50. As a person that received at least one solicitation telephone call using an artificial voice without Plaintiff's prior express consent, Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of the Prerecorded Class. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the Prerecorded Class in that Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to any member of the Prerecorded Class.
- 51. Plaintiff and the members of the Prerecorded Class have suffered irreparable harm as a result of the Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct. Absent a class action, the Class members will continue to face the potential for irreparable harm. In addition, these violations of law will be allowed to proceed without remedy and Defendant will likely continue such illegal conduct. Because of the size of the individual member's claims, few, if any, members of the Classes could afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein.

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- Defendant, its employees and agents are excluded from the Classes. 52. Plaintiff does not know the number of members in the Classes, but believes the Class members number in the thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class action to assist in the expeditious litigation of this matter.
- This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of 53. economic injury on behalf of the Classes, and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal injury and claims related thereto. Plaintiff reserves the right to expand the Class definitions to seek recovery on behalf of additional persons as warranted as facts are learned in further investigation and discovery.
- The joinder of the Class members is impractical and the disposition of their claims in the Class action will provide substantial benefits both to the parties and to the court. The Classes can be identified through Defendant's records or Defendant's agents' records.
- Plaintiff has retained counsel experienced in handling class action 55. claims and claims involving violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.
- A class action is a superior method for the fair and efficient 56. adjudication of this controversy. Class-wide damages are essential to induce Defendant to comply with federal and California law. The interest of the Class members in individually controlling the prosecution of separate claims against Defendant are small because the maximum statutory damages in an individual action for violation of privacy are minimal. Management of these claims is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those presented in many class claims.
- Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to the Classes, 57. thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief and corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the Classes as a whole.

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FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227(C)

ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL DNC AND INTERNAL DNC CLASS

- 58. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 59. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above-cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c), and in particular 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).
- 60. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c), Plaintiff and the National DNC Class and the Internal DNC Class members are entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(B).
- 61. Plaintiff and the National DNC Class and the Internal DNC Class members are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227(C)

ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL DNC CLASS AND THE INTERNAL DNC CLASS

- 62. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 63. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above-cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c), and in particular 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).
- 64. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c), Plaintiff and the National DNC Class and the Internal DNC Class

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members are entitled to an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).

65. Plaintiff and the National DNC Class and the Internal DNC Class members are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227(B)

ON BEHALF OF THE PRERECORDED CLASS

- Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this 66. Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above-cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b).
- As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b), Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members are entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- Plaintiff and Prerecorded Class members are also entitled to and seek 69. injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF THE **TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT** 47 U.S.C. § 227(B)

ON BEHALF OF THE PRERECORDED CLASS

- Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this 70. Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous 71. and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above-cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b).

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- 72. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b), Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members are entitled to an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
- 73. Plaintiff and the Prerecorded Class members are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests the Court grant Plaintiff, and members of The National and Internal DNC Classes, the following relief against Defendant:

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT VIOLATION OF THE TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(C)

- As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5), Plaintiff seeks for herself and each national DNC Class and Internal DNC Class member \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(B).
- Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(A), injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.
- Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(C)

- As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5), Plaintiff seeks for herself and each National DNC Class and Internal DNC Class member \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(C).
- Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(A), injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.
- Any other relief the Court may deem just and proper.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests the Court grant Plaintiff, and

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